

List of love and lust deities

A **love deity** is a deity in mythology associated with romance, sex, lust, or sexuality. Love deities are common in mythology and may be found in many polytheistic religions. Female sex goddesses are often associated with beauty and other traditionally feminine attributes.

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Kama (left) with Rati on a temple wall of Chennakesava Temple, Belur, India



Eos by Evelyn De Morgan (1895) depicts Eos, a reflex of the goddess Hausos, the original love goddess of the Proto-Indo-Europeans

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References

Sub-Sahara Africa

Western African-Congo

Efik

- Anansa, goddess of the Sea, allure and beauty.

Vodun

- Baron La Croix, loa of the dead and sexuality.
- Baron Samedi, loa of the dead, sex, and resurrection.
- Erzulie Freda Dahomey, loa of love, beauty, jewelry, dancing, luxury, and flowers.

Yoruba

- Oshun, goddess of luxury and pleasure, sexuality and fertility, beauty and love, the river and fresh water^{[1][2]} venerated in Ifá, Yoruba religion, Dahomey mythology, Vodun, Santería, Candomblé, Haitian Vodou

Afroasiatic Middle East

Canaanite

- Astarte, goddess of sex and war, Canaanite version of Inanna.

Egyptian

- Bastet, goddess of felines, love, protection, perfume, beauty, and dance.
- Bes, god of music, love, and dance.
- Hathor, goddess of love, beauty, and music; originally a sky goddess.
- Min, god of reproduction, love, and sexual pleasure.

Hausa

- Zamani, god of sex and beauty.

Mesopotamian

- Inanna/Ishtar, goddess of sex, love, beauty, wine and war.^[3]
- Nanaya, goddess personifying voluptuousness, sexuality and sensuality.

Western Eurasia

Albanian

- Prende, goddess of love, beauty and fertility.

Balto-Slavic

Lithuanian

- Milda, goddess of love and freedom.

Slavic

- Dogoda, Polish spirit of the west wind, associated with love and gentleness.
- Dzydzilelya, Polish goddess of love and marriage and of sexuality and fertility.
- Siebog, god of love and marriage.
- Živa, goddess of love and fertility.
- Lada, goddess of beauty and fertility.
- Jarilo, god of fertility and springtime, sometimes regarded as god of lust and passion.

Celtic

- Áine, Irish goddess of love, summer, wealth, and sovereignty; possibly originally a sun goddess.
- Branwen, Welsh goddess of love and beauty
- Clíodhna, Irish goddess, sometimes identified as a goddess of love and beauty.^[4]



The Birth of Venus by Sandro Botticelli (1485), depicting Venus, the Roman goddess of sex and beauty

Norse-Germanic

- Eostre, Germanic reflex of Hausos and thus Frigg/Frijjo's predecessor; she was apparently transformed into a spring/fertility goddess by the Anglo-Saxons and Continental Germanic tribes and thus kept her relevancy in these traditions. She does not appear to have survived in the Norse tradition, probably being replaced by Freyja.
- Freyja, goddess of love/sex, beauty, seiðr, war, and death; often thought of as the Norse equivalent of Aphrodite.
- Frigg, goddess of marriage and women. Has numerous similarities with Freyja and in the *Gesta Danorum* acts more like her. This, combined with the fact that only cognates of her name, and not Freyja's, appear outside of Scandinavia has led to the theory that Freyja is just a hypostasis of Frigg and Frigg was the Common Germanic love and sex goddess.
- Lofn, goddess who has permission from Frigg to arrange forbidden marriages.
- Sjöfn, goddess associated with love.

Greco-Roman

Greek / Hellenic

- Hedone, goddess of pleasure.
- Aphrodite, goddess of love, sex and beauty, Greek version of Astarte and ultimately Inanna/Ishtar.
- Eos, Greek reflex of Hausos, who may have been the PIE lust/sex goddess.
- The Erotes
 - Anteros, god of requited love.
 - Eros, god of love and procreation; originally a primordial deity unconnected to Aphrodite, he was later made into her son, possibly with Ares as his father; this version of him was imported to Rome where he came known as Cupid.
 - Himeros, god of sexual desire and unrequited love.
 - Hedylogos, god of sweet talk and flattery.
 - Hermaphroditus, god of hermaphrodites and effeminate men.
 - Hymen, god of marriage, weddings, and the bridal hymn.
 - Pothos, god of sexual longing, yearning, and desire.
- Pan, god of the wild, shepherds, flocks, rustic music, and fertility of the wild/flocks. Is portrayed as very lustful and often depicted with an erect phallus. He lusted after several nymphs, most importantly Echo and Syrinx. Diogenes of Sinope, speaking in jest, related a myth of Pan learning masturbation from his father, Hermes, and teaching the habit to shepherds. Pan's greatest conquest was that of the moon goddess Selene. He accomplished this by wrapping himself in a sheepskin to hide his hairy black goat form, and drew her down from the sky into the forest where he seduced her.^{[5][6]}
- Peitho, personification of persuasion and seduction.
- Philotes, either a goddess of affection or a daimon of intercourse.
- Priapus, god of sexual intercourse, genitalia, nature, fertility, and lust.



Eros Farnese MAN Napoli 6353

Roman

- Voluptas, Roman version of the Greek Hedone.
- Aurora, Roman reflex of Hausos and thus likely to originally have had characteristics of a lust/sex goddess.
- Cupid, Roman version of the Greek Eros, also called Amor.
- Suadela, Roman version of the Greek Peitho.
- Venus, Roman version of the Greek Aphrodite.

Etruscan

- Albina, goddess of the dawn and protector of ill-fated lovers.
- Turan, goddess of love and vitality.

Western Asia

Armenian

- Astghik, goddess of fertility and love.

Hindu-Vedic

- Kamadeva Hindu god of human love or desire.
- Rati, consort of Kama, goddess of love, carnal desire, lust, passion and sexual pleasure.
- Ushas, Hindu reflex of Hausos so she was likely the lust goddess before Rati appeared.

Persian Zoroastrian

- Anahita, seems to have gained an association with fertility and sex due to being influenced by the Mesopotamian Inanna; originally appears to have been a water goddess.

Asia-Pacific / Oceania

Filipino

- Bangan: the Kankanaey goddess of romance; a daughter of Bugan and Lumawig^[7]
- Obban: the Kankanaey goddess of reproduction; a daughter of Bugan and Lumawig^[8]
- Amas: the Aeta deity who moves to pity, love, unity, and peace of heart^[9]
- Dian Masalanta: the Tagalog goddess of lovers, daughter of Anagolay and Dumakulem;^[10] a patron of lovers and of generation; the Spanish called the deity Alpriapo, as compared with the Western deity Priapus^[11]
- Mangagayuma: the Tagalog deity specializing in charms, especially those which infuses the heart with love; one of the five agent brothers^[12]
- Agkui: the Manobo divinities who have purview over sexual excess^[13]
- Tagbayaw: the Manobo goddess that incites incest and adultery in mortals^[14]

Far East Asia

Chinese

- Jiutian Xuannü, a goddess of war, sex, and longevity.^[15]
- Yue-Lao, a god of love, who binds two people together with an invisible red string.
- Tu Er Shen, a deity who oversees love between (effeminate) homosexual men.
- White Peony (Bai Mudan or Pai Mu-Tan), a goddess who tempts men, especially ascetics.
- Wutong Shen, a group of five wanton deities from Southern China. They ravished and possessed beautiful women.
- Baimei Shen, Chinese prostitution god. On her first assignment with a client, a prostitute was supposed to make a sacrifice to him.
- Qian Keng (Peng Zu), a god of health-focused sex.

- Chuangmu, goddess of the bedchamber. She and her husband Chuanggong look after everything that may happen in the bed room, including sex, sleep, and childbirth.
- King Zhou, one of worst tyrants in Chinese history. He is known as the god of sodomy.

Japanese

- Daikokuten, one of the Seven Lucky Gods. He's a god of prosperity who gets often portrayed with a huge phallus.

Vietnamese

- Ông Tơ Bà Nguyệt, are the two gods of love and marriage. Bà Nguyệt is depicted as someone holding a fan to bring harmony to love and Ông Tơ is depicted as holding a red thread which he uses to tie a couple together.

Buddhist

- Aizen Myō-ō or Rāgarāja, a deity who transforms worldly lust into spiritual awakening; his red-skinned appearance represents suppressed lust and passion.
- Kuni, god of love.
- Kurukulla, Tibetan goddess particularly associated with rites of magnetization or enchantment.

Native Americas

Central American and the Caribbean

Aztec

- Ixcuiname, goddess of carnality.
- Teicu, goddess of sexual appetite.
- Tiacapan, goddess of sexual hunger.
- Tlaco, goddess of sexual longing.
- Tlazolteotl, goddess of lust, carnality, sexual misdeeds.
- Xocotzin, goddess of sexual desire.
- Xochiquetzal, goddess of sex and beauty.
- Xochipilli, god of homosexuality, love, art, games, beauty, dance, flowers, maize, fertility, and song.

South America

Guaraní

- Kurupi, god of sexuality and fertility.
- Rudá, god of love.

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This page was last edited on 25 March 2022, at 02:18 (UTC).

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